WEIGAND CONSTRUCTION

Toolbox Talk

Week 37

The Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals

OSHA updated the Hazard Communication standard in 2012 to align with the Globally Harmonized System (GHS). Standard phrases and pictograms are now used to communicate chemical hazards

Labels must contain:

- Name, Address and Telephone number of chemical manufacturer, importer or other responsible party
- Product Identifier-"name" of product
- Signal Word
- Hazard Statement(s)
- Precautionary Statement(s)
- Pictograms(s)

Signal Words: used to indicate the relative level of severity of the hazard, there are two signal words:

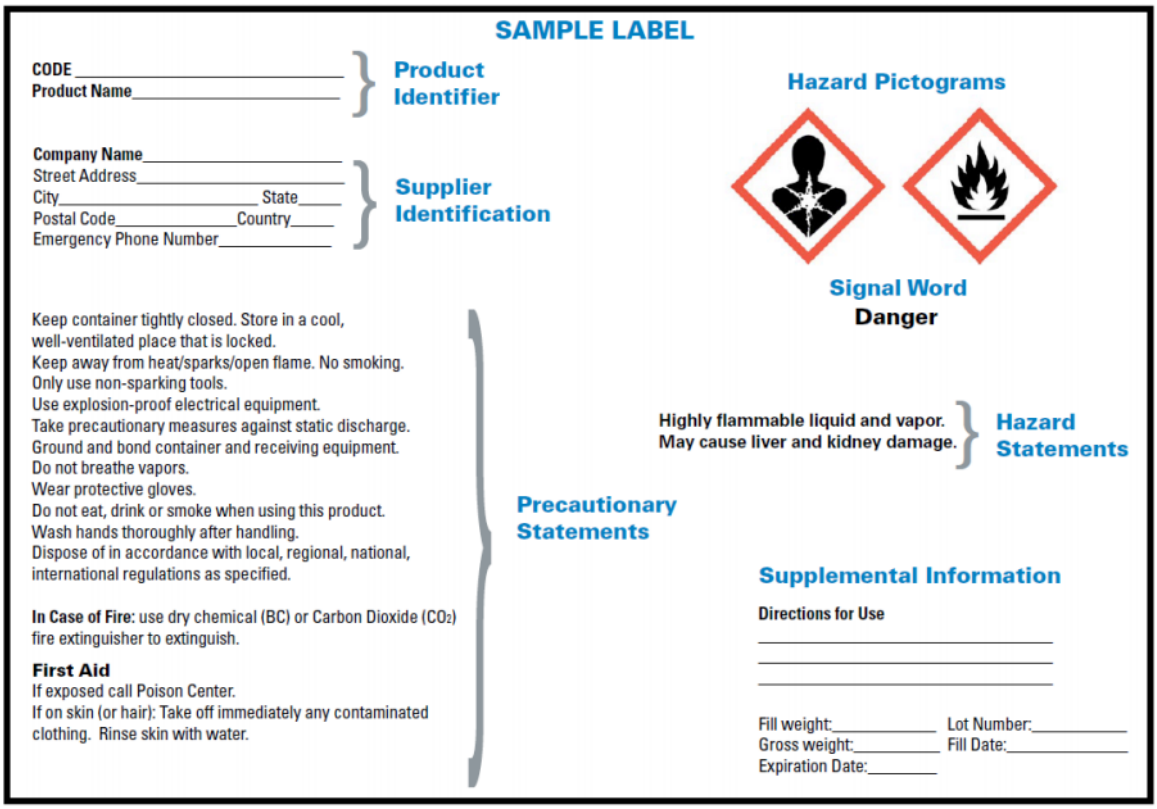
- Danger-used for more severe hazards
- Warning-used for less severe hazards

Hazard Statement(s): A statement assigned to a hazard class and category that describes the nature of the hazard(s) of a chemical, including where appropriate the degree of hazard, e.g. Fatal if swallowed

Precautionary Statement(s): A phrase that describes recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure or improper storage or handling. Four types of statements which have been assigned to hazard classes and categories:

- Prevention
- Response
- Storage
- Disposal

Pictograms: May include a symbol plus other graphic elements such as a border, background pattern or color. Intended to convey specific information about the hazards of a chemical. Eight designated pictograms and one non-mandatory. Black symbols on a white background, with a red diamond border.



Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are now called Safety Data Sheets (SDS)